(a) whether it is a fact that India has put forth the facts regarding the persons responsible for Mumbai-train blasts on 11th July 2006 to the representatives of Government of Americ .

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the actions taken by America so far after receiving the facts?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) As a part of ongoing dialogue with the US, the issue of cross-border terrorism and the Mumbai blasts has been discussed between the officials of the two countries.

Construction of Dam on Brahmaputra by China

†140. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam have informed the Central Government that China is planning to construct a dam on Brahmaputra river in its own territory;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have asked about the source of the said information for these Governments; and

(d) if so, the details of the sources and the viewpoint of China regarding construction of the said dam?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Government is in touch with the state governments of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam regarding reports about construction of dams on the River Brahmaputra in China.

(d) In reponse to a query, the Spokesperson of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs conveyed to PTI on October 25,2006, that "China has no such plans to build a dam and divert water from Yarlung Zangbo

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Brahmaputra) to the Yellow River." Gvoernment has also raised this issue with the Chinese government.

Nurturing Sports Talent

141. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are giving due consideration to the children who are interested to perform in the field of sports;

(b) if so, the details of the procedure to short-list the students from primary school level; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRl MANI SHANKARAIYAR): (a) to (c) 'Sports' is in the State list of the Constitution. As such, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to plan and implement schemes related to promotion of sports, including spotting & nurturing of young talent. However, the Government of India, through the Sports Authority of India, facilitates and supports the efforts of State Governments through various schemes such as:—

(i) National Sports Talent Contest Scheme—Under this scheme, children in the age group of 8-14 (junibrs and sub-juniors) are identified for nurturing and training, through State-level meets organized in collaboration with State Governments, direct approaches by the Regional Centres of the Sports Authority of India to schools in areas where identifiable talent in specific sports is available, adoption of schools and tests camps, etc.

(ii) Promotion of Sports & Games in Schools—This Scheme was introduced in 1986 with a view to raising the standard of sports at the school level and to encourage participation in inter-school competitions. Under this scheme, financial assistance is given @Rs. 75,000 per district and Rs. 3,00,000 per State for holding district — and State-level inter-school tournaments. The Sports Authority of India is given assistance @Rs. 2,00,000 per discipline for the couduct of national-level tournaments. The best performing school in the national-level tournament is given an award of Rs. 1,00,000 along with a rolling trophy. The Scheme is being implemented through the Sports Authority of India.